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LIVESTOCK DAIRY & POULTRY

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TOPICS IN THIS REPORT

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U. S. CATTLE ON FEED 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.52 million head on April 1, 2001. The inventory was 3 percent above April 1, 2000 and 11 percent above April 1, 1999. The inventory included 6.96 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.49 million head, up 3 percent from 2000.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.85 million, 9 percent below both 2000 and 1999. Net placements were 1.75 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 330,000, 600-699 pounds were 416,000, 700-799 pounds were 618,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 488,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.93 million, 6 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999.

Other disappearance totaled 98,000 during March, 5 percent below 2000 but 38 percent above 1999.

CATTLE ON FEED IN HISTORIC 7 STATES

Cattle on feed April 1, 2001, in the historic 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.86 million, up 3 percent from the previous year and 11 percent above April 1, 1999. The inventory included 5.89 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.91 million head, up 3 percent from 2000.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.54 million, 11 percent below 2000 and 12 percent below 1999.

Marketings during March totaled 1.61 million, 9 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999.

Other disappearance during March was 80,000 head, 8 percent above 2000 and 54 percent above 1999.

Cattle on Feed: U.S. Number Placed on Feed, by weight groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, February and March 2001

Month	Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	1000 head				
Feb	336	402	517	325	1,580
Mar	330	416	618	488	1,852

Cattle and Calves on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, 7 Historic States and United States

State	Number on feed March 1			Placed during March			Marketed during March			Other disappearance during March			Number on feed April 1		
	2000	2001	2001-00	2000	2001	2001-00	2000	2001	2001-00	2000	2001	2001-00	2000	2001	2001-00
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
AZ	275	307	112	30	29	97	27	22	81	5	5	100	273	309	113
CA	405	440	109	59	65	110	51	56	110	8	14	175	405	435	107
CO	1,180	1,190	101	*270	230	85	250	220	88	10	10	100	*1,190	1,190	100
IA	375	385	103	57	46	81	56	45	80	1	1	100	375	385	103
KS	2,320	2,470	106	400	395	99	420	385	92	20	20	100	2,280	2,460	108
NE	2,310	2,380	103	400	320	80	390	335	86	10	15	150	2,310	2,350	102
TX	2,830	2,840	100	520	455	88	570	550	96	20	15	75	2,760	2,730	99
7 States	9,695	10,012	103	*1,736	1,540	89	1,764	1,613	91	74	80	108	9,593	9,859	103
Oth. Sts.	1,635	1,683	103	295	312	106	292	313	107	29	18	62	1,609	1,664	103
U.S.	11,330	11,695	103	*2,031	1,852	91	2,056	1,926	94	103	98	95	*11,202	11,523	103

*Revised.

Average prices, Nebraska, dollars per cwt

Week ended	Slaughter steers				Slaughter heifers			
	Choice 1100-1300 lbs				Choice 1000-1200 lbs			
	2000		2001		2000		2001	
Mar 03	82.02		69.86		81.92		69.82	
Mar 10	82.01		71.67		81.71		71.81	
Mar 17	79.88		72.00		79.86		71.92	

CHICKENS AND EGGS

FLORIDA

Table eggs sold in mid-April 2001 averaged 58.0 cents, up 6.0 cents from mid-March. Table egg production in Florida during March was 235 million eggs, up 10 percent from the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.33 billion during March 2001, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.22 billion table eggs and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2001 averaged 337 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during March 2000. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,178 eggs, down slightly from 2,186 eggs in March 2000. March 2001 contained 22 weekdays, five Saturdays, compared to 23 weekdays, 4 Saturdays in March 2000.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2001, totaled 337 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 337 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.80 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2001 averaged 70.9 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 71.2 eggs a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.87 billion eggs during March 2001, up 1 percent from March 2000. The average number of layers during March, at 315 million, was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Mid-month table egg prices received
by Florida egg producers.

Month	Cents per dozen	
	2000	2001
January	41.0	54.0
February	38.0	50.0
March	41.0	52.0
April	43.0	58.0
May	35.0	
June	37.0	
July	38.0	
August	50.0	
September	45.0	
October	44.0	
November	51.0	
December	64.0	

FLORIDA: Layers on hand first of month,
percent molting and molted

	Apr 2000	Feb 2000	Mar 2001	Apr 2001
Total layers on hand: Thous.	10,725	10,896	10,839	11,028
Percent of layers:				
Being molted	2.5	5.5	6.0	2.0
Molt completed	33.0	32.0	35.0	33.0

Layers and egg production, March 2001, production year-to-date egg production for selected States

Selected States	Average layers on hand	Eggs per 100 layers	Egg production				Layers	
			Total	Table	Hatching	Year to date ^{1/}	Being molted	Molt completed
	Thousand						Percent	
Alabama	10,364	1,949	202	64	138	777	0.0	11.0
Arkansas	15,163	1,985	301	113	188	1,186	1.0	11.5
California	23,301	2,159	503			1,974	3.0	33.5
Florida	10,934	2,149	235	222	13	925	2.0	33.0
Georgia	21,385	2,104	450	269	181	1,686	2.0	20.5
Indiana	22,999	2,252	518	505	13	1,990	2.0	33.0
Iowa	31,962	2,231	713			2,785	2.5	27.0
Maine	3,941	2,124	84			354	0.0	0.0
Maryland	3,164	2,276	72	67	5	275	2.5	20.5
Michigan	6,700	2,227	149			557	2.5	26.5
Minnesota	12,221	2,160	264	255	9	1,040	4.5	32.5
Mississippi	6,787	1,974	134	44	90	523	0.5	11.0
Missouri	6,760	2,204	149			594	0.0	18.5
Nebraska	11,648	2,198	256	256		999	9.0	20.0
New York	4,149	2,362	98			387	0.0	2.5
North Carolina	11,163	1,917	214	81	133	849	1.0	9.5
Ohio	30,251	2,245	679			2,569	2.0	23.0
Pennsylvania	24,623	2,376	585	565	20	2,212	0.0	20.5
South Carolina	5,442	2,113	115	95	20	440	0.0	21.5
Texas	18,969	2,156	409			1,587	1.0	22.5
Virginia	3,658	1,832	67	30	37	254	3.0	10.5
Washington	5,054	2,339	118			441	5.5	43.0
Other States	46,000	2,175	1,016			3,931	2.7	24.5
United States	336,638	2,178	7,331	6,219	1,112	28,335	2.0	23.1

^{1/} Production year begins December 1.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 9,493,000 was 3 percent below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 9,963,000, were 17 percent above a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during March at 1,002,000 chicks, was 1 percent below last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 671,000 was 4 percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

The March 2001 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 763 million, was up 1 percent from March of the previous year. There were 627 million eggs in incubators on April 1, 2001, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.75 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2001, down 8 percent from March 2000.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March totaled 40 million, up 3 percent from March 2000. Eggs in incubators totaled 36.0 million on April 1, 2001, up 9 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 372,000 during March 2001, up 30 percent from March 2000

Hatchery production, United States

Item	2000	2001	2001 % of 2000
-- Thousands --			
Egg-Type:			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	32,995	35,984	109
Chicks hatched during Mar	38,874	40,109	103
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	286	372	130
7-18 months earlier ^{1/}	3,078	3,195	104
Broiler-Type:			
Eggs in incubators: Apr 1	635,798	627,159	99
Chicks hatched during Mar	759,244	763,450	101
Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	7,310	6,752	92
7-14 months earlier ^{2/}	63,899	60,480	95

^{1/} 2001 includes pullet chicks hatched September 1999 through August 2000 ^{2/} 2001 includes pullet chicks hatched December 1999 through August 2000.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 236 million pounds of milk during March 2001, 2 percent less than the previous March. Production per cow of 1,530 pounds was unchanged from last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in March totaled 154,000, 2 percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 12.4 billion pounds, down 2.2 percent from March 2000. February revised production, at 11.1 billion pounds, was down 5.0 percent from February 2000. However, adjusting production for leap year would put February milk production down 1.6 percent. The February revision represented a decrease of 0.7 percent or 82 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,599 pounds for March, 33 pounds below March 2000.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.76 million head, 18,000 head less than March 2000, and 9,000 head less than February 2001.

Milk cows and production, Florida and U.S.

Month and year		Milk cows	Monthly milk production	
			Per cow	Monthly Total
		Thous.	Lbs.	Mil. Lbs.
Florida:				
March	2000	157	1,530	240
February	2001	155	1,360	211
March	2001	154	1,530	236
20 Major States:				
March	2000	7,776	1,632	12,687
February	2001	7,767	1,431	11,112
March	2001	7,758	1,599	12,403
United States				
March	2000	--	--	14,761
February	2001	--	--	12,907
March	2001	--	--	14,408

Milk production by quarters, United States

Month	Milk cows ^{1/}		Milk per cow ^{2/}		Milk production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
		Thousand	Pounds		Mil. Lbs.	
Jan-Mar	9,188	9,155	4,640	4,514	42,630	41,326
Apr-Jun	9,213		4,688		43,189	
Jul-Sep	9,229		4,460		41,161	
Oct-Dec	9,211		4,416		40,678	
Annual Total	9,210		18,204		167,658	

^{1/} Dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for March 2001 was 5.1 million pounds, 9 percent above the same month last year.

Commercial production of red meat in the United States for March at 3.78 billion pounds, was 7 percent below 2000.

Commercial slaughter and red meat production, Florida and United States

Source and kind	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Year to date 2000	Year to date 2001
Florida ^{1/}					
Cattle slaughtered (1000 head)	7	7	7	19	21
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8	8	7	22	24
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,457	1,495	1,349	4,014	4,515
Red meat production (million pounds)	4.7	4.7	5.1	13.3	14.9
United States					
Cattle:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	3,132	2,580	2,918	9,005	8,500
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,804	3,142	3,527	11,011	10,348
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,215	1,218	1,209	1,223	1,217
Beef production (million pounds)	2,300	1,883	2,116	6,653	6,204
Calves:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	103	79	84	291	254
Total liveweight (million pounds)	33	26	27	92	82
Average liveweight (pounds)	320	328	323	316	324
Veal production (million pounds)	20	16	16	55	50
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8,822	7,604	8,327	25,039	24,574
Liveweight (million pounds)	2,313	2,005	2,198	6,561	6,490
Average liveweight (pounds)	262	264	264	262	264
Pork production (million pounds)	1,704	1,486	1,626	4,834	4,805
Red meat production (million pounds)	4,048	3,402	3,781	11,605	11,117

^{1/} Florida calves data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Average Dollars Per Cwt Received through 13 Florida Auctions March 2000 and 2001

Stocker calves under 300 lbs.					Stocker calves over 300 lbs.				
Grade	2000		2001		Grade	2000		2001	
	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers		Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers
Medium #1	136.43	119.08	135.69	122.99	Medium #1	92.96	84.93	105.43	90.39
Medium #2	115.90	101.20	120.03	107.20	Medium #2	84.29	76.61	99.89	94.94
All grades	131.74	113.90	129.80	119.85	All grades	111.56	100.05	106.49	101.87

SOURCE: FDA/CS, Div. of Marketing and Development, Market News Service.